

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 SAJ-01

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R 021530Z NOV 76

FM USMISSION USBERLIN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3358

AMEMBASSY BONN

INFO AMEMBASSY BERLIN UNN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY PARIS

USMISSION USNATO

C O N F I D E N T I A L USBERLIN 2337

E.O.11652: GDS

TAGS: PGOV, PFOR, WB, GE, GW

SUBJECT: SENAT-GDR NEGOTIATIONS (EXCHANGE OF TERRITORY; NORTHERN
CROSSING POINT)

REF: USBERLIN 2247

1. SUMMARY: AT MOST RECENT SENAT-GDR TALK ON NORTHERN
CROSSING POINT AND RELATED SENAT-GDR ISSUES, EAST GERMAN
REP SAID THAT HIS GOVERNMENT NOT PREPARED ACCEPT SENAT
OFFER FOR " DUCKBILL" (FROHNAU TRIANGLE) TERRITORY. EAST
GERMAN REP ALSO MADE STRONG IMPLIED CONNECTION BETWEEN
S-BAHN AND CROSSING POINT TERRITORY EXCHANGE.
SENAT VIEWS EAST GEMAN ATTITUDE ON TERRITORY EXCHANGE
AS TACTICAL PLOY AND STILL BELIEVES GDR FOREIGN CURRENCY
REQUIREMENTS WILL FORCE SALE OF TERRITORY AT PRICE SENAT
WILLING TO PAY. GDR HAS ALSO ASKED TO OPEN INTERFLUG
OFFICE IN WSB. END SUMMARY.

2. FOLLOWING WAS DRAWN FROM MEMORANDUM OF CONVERSATION
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PROVIDED BY SENAT. ON OCTOBER 27, SENAT REP KUNZE MET

WITH HIS EAST GERMAN COUNTERPART MITDANK IN EAST BERLIN FOR ANOTHER ROUND OF TALKS ON NORTHERN CROSSING POINT, SALE OF " DUCKBILL", RELATED MATTERS AND VISITS PROBLEMS. MITDANK READ STATEMENT WHICH REJECTED SENAT OFFER FOR " DUCKBILL" AND WHICH SAID THAT ACCESS TO NORTHERN CROSSING POINT WOULD HAVE TO BE ACHIEVED THROUGH SOME OTHER MEANS. MITDANK EMPHASIZED IN HIS STATEMENT THAT ALL COSTS OF CONSTRUCTING NORTHERN CORSSING POINT WOULD HAVE TO BE BORNE BY SENAT. KUNZE REPLIED THAT HE REGRETTED EAST GERMAN ATTITUDE AND REMINDED MITDANK THAT THERE WAS NO OTHER PRACTICAL ROUTE TO NORTHERN CROSSING POINT OTHER THAN VIA "DUCKBILL". HE PROMISED TO PROVIDE FINAL SENAT ANSWER AT NEXT MEETING. (COMMENT:SENAT REGARDS THIS AS A TACTICAL PLOY AND BELEIVES THAT EAST GERMAN NEED FOR HARD CURRENCY WILL FORCE EAST GERMANS TO SELL " DUCKBILL" TERRITORY TO SENAT AT PRICE WEST BERLINERS WILLING TO PAY. KUNZE TOLD MISOFF HE THOUGHT GDR MAY BE EXPECTING TO HAVE TO PROVIDE SOMETHING FOR SOVIETS TO OFFER TO FRG DURING BREZHNEV VISIT EARLY NEXT YEAR AND SALE OF "DUCKBILL" TO FACILITATE ACCESS TO NORTHERN CROSSING POINT MIGHT BE ONE CONCESSION. KUNZE ADDED THAT EAST GERMANS PROBABLY DO NOT WANT TO HAVE TO PAY TWICE, I.E. DO NOT WANT TO BE FORTHCOMING WITH SENAT ON PRESENT ISSUE AND THEN HAVE TO FIND ANOTHER MATTER WHICH SOVIETS CAN USE. CHANCELLERY CHIEF HERZ ALSO TOLD MISOFF THAT HE IS OPTIMISTIC THAT "DUCKBILL" WILL BE OBTAINED IN GOOD TIME. END COMMENT.)

3. MITDANK THEN IMPLIED THAT MORE FAVORABLE GDR ATTITUDE ON "DUCKBILL" COULD BE ATTAINED IF SENAT WERE TO BE MORE FORTHCOMING ON PROBLEM OF S-BAHM (COMMENT: GDR HAS SOUGHT FOR SEVERAL MONTHS SENAT FINANCIAL PARTICIPATION IN SOME FORM OR ANOTHER TO REDUCE FINANCIAL DRAIN TO GDR OF RUNNING S-BAHN IN WEST BERLIN. END COMMENT) KUNZE REACTED NEGATIVELY TO THIS LINKAGE BETWEEN TWO PROBLEMS, BUT MITDANK DENIED HE WAS MAKING SUCH CONNECTION. HE ADDED THAT SENAT'S POSITION ON S-BAHN WAS UNREALISTIC AND STUBBORN. MITDANK STATED THAT ALTHOUGH SENAT HAD DENIED RESPONSIBILITY FOR S-BAHN MATTERS, IT NEVERTHELESS WAS INVOLVED WITH S-BAHN IN CONFIDENTIAL

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MANY WAYS. HE THEN CITED SEVERAL EXAMPLES OF SENAT URBAN PLANNING DOCUMENTS WHICH DISCUSSED S-BAHN. KUNZE REPEATED THAT SENAT WAS NOT RESPONSIBLE FOR S-BAHN MATTERS AND THERE WAS NO POSSIBILITY FOR DISCUSSIONS TO TAKE PLACE BETWEEN GDR FOREIGN MINISTRY AND SENAT CHANCELLERY ON THIS SUBJECT. MITDANK NOTED THAT SENAT HAD IN PAST OBTAINED PERMISSION OF ALLIES TO DISCUSS SIMILAR MATTERS AND ASKED WHETHER GDR SHOULD

APPROACH ALLIES ABOUT THIS. KUNZE REFUSED TO REPLY TO THIS QUESTION.

4. MITDANK THEN RAISED A NEW POTENTIAL AREA FOR NEGOTIATIONS. HE OBSERVED THAT THE GDR HAD IDENTIFIED 26 PLACES WHERE WEST BERLINERS WERE USING EAST BERLIN TERRITORY LYING TO THE WEST OF THE BERLIN WALL FOR THEIR OWN PURPOSES (GARDENS, PARKING PLACES, ETC).HE SUGGESTED THAT THE CONTINUED USE OF THESE AREAS BE NEGOTIATED BETWEEN THE GDR AND THE SENAT. KUNZE AGREED TO INFORM RESPONSIBLE DEPARTMENTS IN SENAT. (COMMENT: IN ORDER TO PRECLUDE ANY CONTINUED BASIS FOR SUCH TALKS, SENAT PLANS TO HAVE WEST BERLIN POLICE CONTACT ALL WEST BERLINERS INVOLVED AND HAVE THEM VACATE AREAS ON EAST BERLIN SIDE OF DEMARCATION LINE. END COMMENT.)

5. MITDANK THEN RAISED A NUMBER OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUESTIONS REGARDING POWER PLANT THAT SENAT PLANS TO BUILD AT OBERJAEGERWEG ADJACENT TO WEST BERLIN-GDR BORDER. (COMMENT: SENAT REGARDS GDR CONCERNS RE SMOKE DISCHARGE AND WATER LEVELS AS REASONABLE. IT FEELS FRG PERM REP GAUS IN WEST BERLIN COULD PROVIDE ANSWERS IN DUE COURSE.END COMMENT.)

6. GDR WISHES TO ESTABLISH AN OFFICE OF ITS NATIONAL AIRLINE, INTERFLUG, IN WEST BERLIN, MITDANK SAID. HE ASKED KUNZE TO GIVE HIM SENAT VIEWS ON THIS.

7. REMAINDER OF MEETING WAS DEVOTED TO VISITS AND RELATED MATTERS. WE WILL BE REPORTING LATEST TRAVEL STATISTICS BY AIRGRAM.

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